Annual GPRA Measure Review

August 15, 2017

Background

Each year, the Agency provides an opportunity to propose performance measure adjustments to OMB during the budget development process. OCFO has asked that ORD submit proposed modifications to annual GPRA measures by August 16. ORD can propose changes to both the measures themselves or to their targets.

OPARM's recommendations for this year's GPRA measure review are as follows:

- Continue to report Percentage of APR Products delivered on time, one per national program
- Continue to report Percentage of Outputs delivered on time, one per national program
- Propose ORD retires the three annual IRIS-based measures (see details below)
- Propose a new annual measure reflecting the "Number of peer-reviewed journal articles with datasets cleared for publication" (see details below)

IRIS Measures

HHRA is responsible for three unique GPRA measures:

1. **(PM RA6)** Number of regulatory decisions in which decision-makers used HHRA peer-reviewed assessments (IRIS, PPRTVs, exposure assessments and other assessments)
2. **(PM RA7)** Annual milestone progress score for completing draft IRIS health assessments.
3. **(PM RA8)** Annual progress score for finalizing IRIS health assessments.

HHRA has requested that ORD proposes retiring these measures, allowing HHRA to report on only the two APR Product and Output measures, consistent with the other National Research Programs.

HHRA's justification reads as follows:

1. For **RA6**:
   a. Collecting data on HHRA assessment references in agency decision documents poses a difficult administrative burden and does not accurately demonstrate the value of these assessments. If an assessment is referenced and a decision is made not to promulgate a rule or regulation, the value of the assessment is not captured by the measure.
   b. Many HHRA assessments, such as ISA's and PPRTV's are conducted at the request of agency programs. Measuring regulatory references, therefore, is a less direct and less accurate measurement of utility.
2. For **RA7** and **RA8**:
   a. IRIS assessments are classified as research products and are captured in PM RA1 (percentage of research products completed). RA7 and RA8 are therefore duplicative.
   b. The use of a scoring system to capture complexity of assessments currently in development seems inconsistent with other ORD reporting requirements. No other NRP reports scores their products by complexity, although other programs likely have equally complex products.

Challenges

- ORD proposed removing these three metrics in FY12, FY13 and FY14. OMB denied each of these requests, stating that HHRA would be required to propose equally robust metrics to replace them.
- These denied requests were driven by challenges in the IRIS program, prompting OMB to want the metrics in order to ensure program progress.

Journal Article Clearance Measure

Because ORD has proposed reporting the "Number of peer-reviewed journal articles with datasets cleared for publication" as a Strategic Measure in the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, ORD will also be required to use this as an annual GPRA measure.

The FY18 target (336) was calculated by reducing the five-year rolling average of peer reviewed journal articles cleared and reducing it relative to the FY18 President's Budget request.

Timeline

- **August 16** – ORD provides OCFO with proposed FY18 performance measures and targets
- **August 23** – ORD and OCFO reach final agreement on FY18 performance measures and targets
- **September 11** – FY18 performance measures and targets are given to OMB as part of the budget submission
- **September-December** (exact dates unknown) – ORD and OMB negotiate proposed measure framework at a staff/mid-management level

Performance Measure	FY 2018 Target	Unit
(PM AC1) Percentage of planned research products completed on time by the Air and Energy research program.	100	Percent
(PM AC2) Percentage of planned research outputs delivered to clients for use in improving air quality.	100	Percent
(PM CS1) Percentage of planned research products completed on time by the Chemical Safety for Sustainability research program.	100	Percent
(PM CS2) Percentage of planned research outputs delivered to clients and partners to improve their capability to advance the environmentally sustainable development, use, and assessment of chemicals.	100	Percent
(PM HC1) Percentage of planned research products completed on time by the Sustainable and Healthy Communities research program.	100	Percent
(PM HC2) Percentage of planned research outputs delivered to clients, partners, and stakeholders for use in pursuing their sustainability goals.	100	Percent
(PM HS1) Percentage of planned research products completed on time by the Homeland Security research program.	100	Percent
(PM HS2) Percentage of planned research outputs delivered to clients and partners to improve their capabilities to respond to contamination resulting from homeland security events and related disasters.	100	Percent
(PM RA1) Percentage of planned research products completed on time by the Human Health Risk Assessment research program.	100	Percent
(PM RA2) Percentage of planned research outputs delivered to clients and partners for use in informing human health decisions.	100	Percent
(PM RA6) Number of regulatory decisions in which decision-makers used HHRA peer-reviewed assessments (IRIS, PPRTVs, exposure assessments and other assessments)	20	Number
(PM RA7) Annual milestone progress score for completing draft IRIS health assessments.	10	Score
(PM RA8) Annual progress score for finalizing IRIS health assessments.	5	Score
(PM SW1) Percentage of planned research products completed on time by the Safe and Sustainable Water Resources research program.	100	Percent
(PM SW2) Percentage of planned research outputs delivered to clients and partners to improve the Agency's capability to ensure clean and adequate supplies of water that support human well-being and resilient aquatic ecosystems.	100	Percent
Number of peer-reviewed journal articles with datasets cleared for publication (new measure)	336	Number